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LETTER DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GEORGIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit, herewith, a copy of the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, dated 22 September 1998.

May I request your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Peter CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-28251 (E) 250998

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Annex

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia expresses its deep concern at the terrorist act which took place in Sukhumi on 21 September 1998. At about 10 p.m. on that day a vehicle belonging to the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) was ambushed and subjected to gunfire, as a result of which a number of United Nations military observers have been reported injured.

Over the most recent period of time, similar incidents directed against United Nations personnel have occurred on more than one occasion in Sukhumi. These incidents give strong grounds to infer that such provocative actions are initiated by forces interested in the obstruction of the active participation of the United Nations in the process of the settlement of the conflict.

Regrettably, so far, it has been impossible to achieve an agreement on the creation of a mechanism which would ensure the safety and the normal functioning of the Observer Mission and its personnel. This recent terrorist act once again indicates the necessity of the undelayed adoption of the decision regarding the proposal of the Secretary-General and the unacceptability of further procrastination concerning its adoption.